

Simon Bolivar

PUBLIC ART COLLECTION IDENTIFICATION SUMMARY



Number: 0024

Artist: Talacca, C.

Title: Simon Bolivar

Date: 1977, Dedicated December 1978

Type: Sculpture (Portrait Bust)

Medium: Sculpture: cast bronze Base: polished red granite

Dimensions: Sculpture: 32" x 31" x 17"
Base: 53" x 36.75" x 37"

Foundry/Fabricator: x

Location/Environment: International Sculpture Garden, Hermann Park Rose Garden, Outdoors

Provenance: Gift of the government of the people of Venezuela

Historical Background

Simon Bolivar was born in Caracas, Venezuela on July 24, 1783. He is remembered as the liberator of many South American countries from Spain's rule. Bolivar was known as a hero for his actions and is honored much the same way most Americans honor George Washington.

Physical Description

Simon Bolivar is a cast-bronze bust that is mounted on a polished, pink granite pedestal. There is an inscribed bronze plaque mounted on the front face of the pedestal.

The bust depicts a man dressed in a decorative military uniform, with epaulets on each shoulder. The artist's signature appears under the left epaulet ('77/ C. TALACCA).

The inscription on the plaque reads as follows:

SIMON BOLIVAR/ Obsequio del Gobierno y Pueblo de Venezuela/ a la ciudad de Houston estrechando mas aun/ los lazos de amistad que nos unen./ "LA GLORIA ESTA EN SER GRANDE Y EN SER UTIL"/ Diciembre 1978

SIMON BOLIVAR/ Liberator of Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, and Panamá/ Born July 24, 1783, in Caracas, Venezuela/ Died December 17, 1830, in Santa Maria Columbia/ This plaque was donated by Petróleos de Venezuela-PDVSA and The Venezuelan Consulate General in Houston/ December 17, 1996

Restoration/Conservation

Simon Bolivar was fully restored in April 1997. The bust was cleaned and re-coated and the granite pedestal was cleaned.